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Item 33 of the preliminary list*

POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

Letter dated 3 March 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit the text, in English and French, of a statement of the Presidency of the European Community on South Africa, issued at Lisbon on 26 February 1992 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly under item 33 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Fernando REINO
Ambassador of Portugal
Permanent Representative to the
United Nations

* A/47/50.

ANNEX

Statement on South Africa

The Community and its member States, referring to the decision by President de Klerk to hold a referendum among the white population on the ongoing reforms in South Africa, recall their statement on the start of the work of the convention for a democratic South Africa, issued on 17 December 1991.

Stressing the important steps towards the complete abolition of apartheid taken since the autumn of 1989 and the positive results already achieved in Codesa, the Community and its member States, which have encouraged this policy from the beginning, reaffirm their conviction that this negotiation process is a unique opportunity for the peaceful transformation of South Africa into a democratic and non-racial State and its full reintegration into the international community.

Accordingly, they express the hope that the process initiated in Codesa, of paramount importance for the whole southern Africa region, will continue uninterrupted and that early substantive progress will be achieved, with the broadest possible support of the South African population as a whole.